



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
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09/467,293 12/17/99 TSUGITA

R 247/062

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QM12/1121

EXAMINER

MENDEZ, M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3763

DATE MAILED:

11/21/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/467,293

Applicant(s)

Tsugita, et al.

Examiner

Manuel Mendez

Group Art Unit

3763



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 29, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire three month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 1-8 and 10-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gabbay in view of Miller et al and Buckberg et al. The Gabbay patent discloses an elongate tubular member having a proximal end, a distal end, and a lumen therebetween, and an expandable occluder deployable from the distal region of the cannula. Gabbay does not disclose or suggest the insertion of a filter separately insertable through the elongate tubular member. It would have been obvious to modify Gabbay by substituting for any of the instruments inserted in lumens (2,3)

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thereof, a filter as taught by Miller, et al., since Miller, et al., suggests that a filter enhances the capabilities of the tubular member by providing a filter that can be directly attached to the walls of a vessel.

In relation to claim 9, Gabbay does not disclose a cannula having a distal end that is straight.

Buckberg, et al., discloses an antegrade cardioplegia cannula having a distal end that is straight. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Gabbay by substituting for the curved distal end thereof, a straight distal end as disclosed by Buckberg et al., since Buckberg et al. demonstrates that said straight cannula is a conventional design in the treatment of the heart, and therefore said modification to Gabbay must be considered as an obvious design alternative. In relation to the disclosed method claims, the references cited above, disclosed all the critical elements of the applicants invention. Under the principles of inherency, if a prior art device, in its normal and usual operation, would necessarily performed the method claimed, then the method claimed will be considered to be anticipated by the prior art device. When the prior art device is the same as a device described in the specification for carrying out the claimed method, it can be assumed the device will inherently perform the claimed process. In re king, 231 USPQ 136 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

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*Response to Arguments*

3. Applicant's arguments filed August 29, 2000 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. It is the examiner's opinion that in view of the broadness of the independent claims, the obviousness rejection still adequate and proper.

*Conclusion*

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

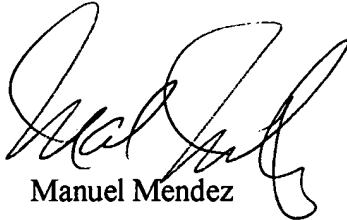
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Mendez whose telephone number is (703) 308-2221.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Mendez', with a stylized, cursive script.

November 19, 2000